

January 24, 2014

# Weekly Views

Students from Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility (MJCF) participated in a unique training opportunity. In cooperation with Madison's Kings Daughter Hospital, 17 students were able to achieve their CPR/AED certification. The training took one week to complete, and then each girl had to demonstrate their knowledge and skill to earn their CPR/AED certification. Some of the students want to use this training in assisting them in finding employment but most thought it is good knowledge to have. The CPR/AED training is scheduled again to take place in May 2014.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF)" answered the call of the Red Cross for

blood donors in a huge way by donating 47 units of blood during a two-day drive. The Red Cross is in dire need of donations to help fill the void caused by the recent Polar Vortex that hit Indiana and cancelled many drives. The facility would like to thank all the employees who donated, covered posts so that others could participate and those that tried but could not donate. (photo right of Officer Rheid Herrington)

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) staff rolled up their sleeves for a good cause, helping to curb the critical need for blood donations! 43 much needed blood donations were supplied to the Indiana Blood Center during their WVCF stop. The recent bad weather put a damper on giving and donors like Jennifer Gardner were happy to help replenish supplies. The Indiana Blood Center needs 550 donors a day to keep up with demand!

Special recognition and gratitude goes out to volunteer Mike Tichenor for his dedication in bringing the Inside/Outside Dads program to Westville Correctional Facility. Tichenor's unyielding efforts were put into perspective as he completed his 16th Dad's class. During each class Mr. Tichenor takes a survey of the number of children of each offender, and so far the average number of children in each class is 62. This many children being reached by the program shows the vital importance of volunteers.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility Sergeant James Washington received a letter of commendation from Superintendent Kathy Griffin for his quick action in assisting an offender. On January 13, Sergeant Washington was assisting in the control post when an offender began choking on an apple. Sergeant Washington took swift action performing abdominal thrust and dislodging the item from the offender's throat, possibly saving the offender's life. Superintendent Griffin stated, "Sergeant Washington's actions show his care and concern for human beings. I am truly delighted to have him on my team." (photo left)



Madison Correctional Facility donated \$2500 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeast Indiana to sponsor each child (little) to participate in a trip to King's Island. Big Brothers Big Sisters is a great cause that provides, "children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever."

WTHR-TV Reporter David MacAnally and Pendleton Times-Post Reporter Amanda Matlock visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) to do a story on the facility's K9 Cell Phone Detection Program and the Department's ongoing efforts to address cell phone trafficking. The reporters observed a K9 search demonstration and interviewed PCF Correctional Police Officer Tom Francum, PCF K9 Field Commander Lieutenant Donald Mockler, and K9 Handler Officer Brantley Ferguson. These were excellent opportunities to share with the public the tremendous job IDOC employees do on a daily basis to maintain security and ensure public safety.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility is proud to announce the promotion of Correctional Officer Joseph Neace to Correctional Sergeant. Sergeant Neace began his career with the Department in July 2010 at Putnamville Correctional Facility. He transferred to Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility in February 2011, Correctional Industrial Facility in June 2012 and Edinburgh in July 2013. Sergeant Neace has been trained in Quick Response Team, Sexual Assault Response Team, count/control, fire arms, segregation, offender transportation, and keeps all other mandatory training requirements current. Sergeant Neace will be a valuable asset to the facility's management team.

Reception Diagnostic Center Superintendent Jim Wynn is pleased to announce that Nathaniel Hester has been promoted to Lieutenant. Lieutenant Hester began his career with the IDOC in 2003 as a Correctional Officer at the Plainfield Correctional Facility. He was promoted to Correctional Sergeant in 2006 and transferred to the Reception-Diagnostic Center in 2007. Congratulations Lieutenant Hester!

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) conducted a Staff Assembly. During the assembly, Officer Richard Tweedy was presented a flag case with a folded Indiana State Flag for his years of service and pending retirement. Plaques were presented to Correctional Sergeant Wayne Mays for Supervisor of the Quarter, Maintenance Foreman Scott Riggs for Employee of the Quarter, Assistant Food Service Director Brandon Miller for Contract Employee of the Quarter, Grace College Teacher Roger Krynock for the Extra Mile Award and Officer Betty McCullough for Officer of the Quarter. The program concluded with Representatives from Special Olympics Indiana, Paul Philhower and Stephanie Stewart, speaking to the staff. Philhower who is a Special Olympian himself told staff, "When you are having a bad day, go watch Special Olympians compete and you will find your smile again." CIF will be participating in the upcoming Special Olympics Polar Plunge at Ball State University.